

Fire and EMS

Last Updated Thursday, 12 March 2009

History tells us that the City of Frankfort has had tax supported fire service since the early 1820's. In those days, the fire department consisted of eight men who served as engineers. These men took command at any fire alarm and conducted regular fire drills. They also made sure that the engine (horse drawn) was properly attended to and they were given the power to require the assistance of any citizen at a fire alarm. Anyone who refused was liable to a fine. The department also had its own fire prevention program, requiring that every household had one two-gallon leather bucket for up to three fireplaces in each home. Owners of rental property were also required to supply the required number of buckets to their tenants. Any property owners who failed to supply the required number of buckets were subject to a fine of one dollar per month for each bucket he was deficient. The buckets were the major firefighting tool during those early days and every firefighter was required to bring his buckets when he reported to a fire alarm or a drill. If he forgot his buckets, he faced a two dollar fine.

An ordinance passed by the Common Council (known today as the City Commission) on January 24, 1895 to establish and maintain a fire company and prescribing rules and regulations for the government thereof. The members of the Fire Department, the Fire Chief, Hydrantman, Drivers (Hose Wagon and Hook and Ladder Wagon), Pipeman and two Runners were elected by the Common Council and were to hold office for one year. The annual re-election was scheduled for the December meeting. The Fire Chief was to receive an annual salary of \$240. The Hydrantman, Drivers, and Pipeman were to receive an annual salary of \$540 and the Runners received \$96 a year.

Today the Frankfort Fire Department provides fire protection and prevention service to citizens in a twenty-two square mile area of the Capital City. Since 1970, the department has also provided Emergency Medical Service (E.M.S.) to Frankfort and Franklin County. In October 1989, this service was expanded to include Advanced Life Support (ALS). Paramedics in addition to Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) respond to emergency calls throughout the City and County. The department responds to more than 6,000 ambulance calls and around 1000 fire calls each year.

The department is made up of 91 full time employees, who maintain four fire stations and administrative offices. The administrative office includes: the Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, Fire Marshal, EMS Director, EMS Training Coordinator, Training Officer, Public Education Officer, Administrative Assistants, and Emergency Management Director.

The inter-structure of the fire department is comprised of three separate crews or shifts with twenty-seven personnel. Each crew mans four fire stations providing fire and ambulance service. The crews are staffed with a Battalion Chief, Captain, Lieutenants, Sergeants, Firefighters/EMT's and Paramedics.

Emergency Management for the City of Frankfort falls under the direction of the Fire Department. The Emergency Management Director is responsible for developing and maintaining the City's Emergency Operations Plan. During major disasters or catastrophes, citywide emergency operations are managed by the Emergency Management Director in conjunction with the resources of Franklin County and the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management. Depending on the extent of the emergency situation, Frankfort Emergency Management may assume anything from a limited to a major role.

{slide=Location Map}

Click here to view the Fire and EMS Map!{/slide} {slide=FAQs}

Click here to view the Fire and EMS FAQs{/slide} {slide=Recruitment and Training}

Visit our Recruitment and Training section.{/slide} {slide=Brochures}

Brochures Available at Frankfort Fire Administration (502) 875-8511 include:

- Basic First Aid
- Child Finder Program
- Earthquake Information
- Earthquake Safety Tips
- Fire Safety on the Job
- Fire Safety Tips
- Portable Fire Extinguishers
- Sparky Coloring/Activity Books
- Severe Weather Tips{/slide} {slide=Public Safety Tips}
- Install a smoke detector on each level of your home near sleeping areas.
- Know two ways out of buildings and do not use elevators.
- Children should never play with matches and lighters.
- If you smoke, don't smoke in bed and be careful when discarding cigarette butts and ashes.

- When cooking turn handles inward and never leave unattended.
- Keep combustibles at least four feet from fire places and portable space heaters.
- Run cool water over burns for 10 to 15 minutes and see a doctor if skin blisters or is charred.
- Do not overload extension cords and make sure electrical appliances are in good working order.
- Crawl low under smoke during a fire. Cleaner air is located 12 to 24 inches above the floor.
- If your clothes catch fire Stop, Drop and Roll on the ground with your hands protecting your face.
- Click here to view a Kitchen Oil Fire Video.{/slide} {slide=Fire and EMS Contacts}

AMBULANCE BILLS

If you have any questions regarding your ambulance bill you can call 1-800-588-8891 Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

NON-EMERGENCY AMBULANCE TRANSPORTATION

Call Frankfort/Franklin County Dispatch Center at (502) 875-8550

FIRE AND AMBULANCE REPORTS

If you need a copy of a fire and/or ambulance report you can call Fire Administration at (502) 875-8511 Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

NEEDLE DISPOSAL

To properly dispose of needles and syringes, place in an approved biohazard (sharps) container. These containers may be purchased from local pharmacies. BFI and the City of Frankfort Trash Collection will allow these containers to be placed in household waste as long as they are properly sealed with the tops provided. Milk jugs, coffee cans, soft drink bottles or jars are NOT SUITABLE AND WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. If you have any questions you may call the EMS Director (502) 875-8531.

JOB APPLICATIONS

Contact City of Frankfort Personnel Office at (502) 875-8500 or pick up in person at Frankfort City Hall, 315 West Second Street Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Also you can click here for a job application and click here for the application information .

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT) AND PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATION

Contact Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Service at (502) 564-8963 Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or see their web site at <http://www.kbems.org>.

FIRE INSPECTION

City buildings, Frankfort Independent Schools and Businesses located within the city limits can call Frankfort Fire Marshal, Gary Kail at (502) 875-8539 Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. State occupied, State licensed (daycares, hospitals, nursing homes, etc) and Franklin County School System facilities can call State Fire Marshal's Office at (502) 573-0388.

BURNING AND BLASTING PERMITS

Open burning and blasting is prohibited in the City of Frankfort without a permit. Permits can be obtained at Frankfort Fire Administrative Office at 314 West Second Street Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For additional information call (502) 875-8511.{/slide} {slide=Code Enforcement and Permits}

Click here to view the Code Enforcement and Permits section.{/slide}

Wallace Possich, Chief

Fire Department

Wallace Possich
Fire of Chief
314 West Second Street
Frankfort, KY 40602
Emergencies: 911
Non-Emergencies: (502) 875-8511
Fax: (502) 875-8533

Send e-mail!

Citizens Fire Academy The Frankfort Fire & EMS Citizens Fire Academy is a seven week program that educates participants about the various functions and services that the department provides to the community. Participants will gain an understanding of these functions, how the department is organized to provide these services, and why we do what we do. The citizens fire academy does not train citizens to become firefighters and this course is not an avenue for employment with the City of Frankfort. Our intent is to provide information, through classroom instruction and hands-on training, of the duties and responsibilities of the fire department. The participants will have the opportunity to experience first-hand the varied tasks that Frankfort firefighters and paramedics perform each and every day. Classes will run from August 26th through October 7th, 2008 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. every Tuesday. Minimum age for participation is 18 and each applicant must complete and return an application and release form no later than August 15th, 2008. Applications may be picked-up at the Fire Administration Office at 314 W. Second Street or click on the link below. Class size is limited! We sincerely hope that this experience will enhance your knowledge of Frankfort Fire & EMS and the services that we provide to the community.

Downloads

- Citizens Fire Academy forms

- Job Application

- Application Information for Firefighter Recruit

- Click to view a Kitchen Oil Fire Video